

Solar System Writing Assignment 2 page Research paper

1. Choose a planet or a satellite of a planet as your topic.
2. Use at least 3 sources to gather information for your report. 10 pts
3. List the sources of your articles in a bibliography. 10 pts
Projects without sources cited receive a score of zero.
4. Write a 2 page research paper about your topic. Follow formatting as provided by library. 30 pts
5. You will be scored using the PSSA writing Assessment Scoring Guide
6. Include three images or pictures related to your subject. Name the sources in bibliography. 15 pts
7. Prepare a 11x 13 poster with images and a minimum of 5 facts. 20 pts
8. Paper must be submitted to Turnitin.com by _____ 10 pts
9. You will lose 10 points per school day if the assignment is late. No assignments will be accepted if more than 3 days late.

Name _____

Topic _____

Due Date _____

Recommended websites:

Google the following:

Window to the Universe
NASA Planets
NASA Planetary missions
Nine planets
Science Daily
Space.com
Naming Planets

www.windows2universe.org/
<http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/index.cfm>
<http://science.nasa.gov/planetary-science/missions/>
<http://nineplanets.org/>
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/>
<http://www.space.com/>

General Outline Format for an Essay



- I. Introduction:
 - A. Attention Grabber
 - B. General Information/Background leading into claims
 - C. 3-Point Thesis
- II. Body Paragraphs (repeat 3 times, one for each major claim):
 - A. Topic Sentence
 - B. Supporting Evidence 1
 - 1. Elaboration/Explanation of evidence
 - C. Supporting Evidence 2
 - 1. Elaboration/Explanation of evidence
 - D. Supporting Evidence 3
 - 1. Elaboration/Explanation of Evidence
 - E. Transition
- III. Conclusion
 - A. Give a summation/reflection of your thesis
 - B. Explain why your ideas/issues ARE important
 - C. Clincher: Final positive statement (*Ask a question, call for action, universalize, end with a warning or prediction, etc.*)

General Writing Tips for an Essay:

- ☒ Write in 3rd person. That means avoid 1st person!
- ☒ Use at least **TWO** well explained examples in developing in **EACH** of the support paragraphs. You must also EXPLAIN each example in complete detail!
- ☒ This prompt is informational – meaning you need to inform us about the topic. So, you are charged with creating a thesis that in essence informs the reader specifically on the similarities as to what you have determined the prompt suggests.
- ☒ Create your thesis and proofread at the end to ensure the essay reflects what you stated in the thesis; if it does not reflect the thesis, then change the thesis to fit what you wrote.
- ☒ Be as specific as possible and use colorful descriptive words and stories to illustrate your point.
- ☒ **PRACTICE PROOFREADING!**

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MLA Guidelines

General Formatting Guidelines

- Use 1 inch margins for entire paper.
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font.
- Include your last name and page # at top right of each page.
- Begin the first line of each Work Cited entry at the left margin. If the citation goes to the next line, indent 5 spaces.
- Double space between entries, and double space within them (check with your teacher).
- Citations should be in alphabetical order by author's last name. If no author, alphabetize by the first word in the title (skip a, an, the).
- Titles of publications are italicized.
- Dates are written as Day Month Year (Ex. 23 October 2007) Months are abbreviated to three letters (Mar.), except May, June, July, and Sept.
- Use the following abbreviations for missing information: n.p.=no place of publication; n.d.=no date; n.pag.= no pagination

Book with one author

Last name, First name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Smith, Harris. *Our Twin: The Story of Cloning*. New York: Little Brown, 2005. Print.

Book with multiple authors

Last name, First name, and First name Last name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Baskin, Bill, and Joe Miller. *Forensic Science: A Look at the Dead*. New York: Penguin Publishers, 2006. Print.

Book or Pamphlet (Corporate Author)

Corporate Author. *Title of Book or Pamphlet*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Centers for Disease Control. *Cancer*. Washington, D.C.: CDC, 1989. Print.

Book with an Editor (ed.), Compiler (comp.), or Translator (trans.)

Last name, First name, ed. *Title of Book*.
Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Griffith, James, ed. *Artists Before Their Time: Modernists*. New York: Smith, 2001. Print.

General Newspaper or Magazine Article (Print)

Last name, First name. "Title of Article."
Title of Periodical Date: Pages. Medium.

Adler, Tina. "Two Views of a Swamp."
Science News 22 July 1995: 56-67. Print.

Literary Work in a Collection (Short Stories/Drama/Poetry)

Last name, First name. "Title of Work."
Title of Book. Editor Name. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Pages. Medium.

Shakespeare, William. "Twelfth Night."
Shakespeare: The Complete Works. Ed. L. Harrison. New York: Harcourt, 1970. 850-879. Print.

Article in a Collection (Bloom, NCLC)

Last name, First name. "Title of Essay/Article."
Title of Original Source (Year of Original Publication): Pages. Rpt. in *Title of Secondary Source*. Editor. Vol #. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Pages. Medium.

Griffin, Edgar. "School Uniforms Do Not Violate Rights." *Education* (1986): 122-128. Rpt. in *Opposing Viewpoints*. Ed. John Smith. Vol. 23. San Diego: Greenhaven, 2004. 121-127. Print.

Shear, Walter. "Generational Differences in The Joy Luck Club." *Critique* (1993): 28-30. Rpt. in *Amy Tan*. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 2007. 82-84. Print.

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MLA Guidelines

Reference Book (Encyclopedia, etc.)

Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Reference Book*. Vol. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Davis, Elise, ed. "The Civil War." *The World Book Encyclopedia*. Vol. 3. Detroit: Little, Brown, 2005. Print.

Articles from Library Databases (ex. Gale)

Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Original Source*. Vol. (Year): Pages. *Title of Database*. Medium. Date of Access.

Jeffries, Dan. "Genetic Cloning Holds Key to Past." *Science Journal*. 31 (2007): 34-40. *Gale Science Resource Center*. Web. 13 Oct. 2006.

General Website

Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Website*. Sponsoring Institution/ Publisher, Date of Publication. Medium. Date of Access.

**if no date is available for publication date or version, use n.d.*

Smith, Carol. "Arthritis." *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. CDC, 14 July 1999. Web. 25 Nov. 1999.

"Title of Article." *Title of Website*. Sponsoring Institution/ Publisher, Date of Publication. Medium. Date of Access.

"Verb Tenses." *The OWL at Purdue*. Purdue U Online Writing Lab, 2001. Web. 25 May 2000.

Television Program

"Title of Episode or Segment." *Title of Program or Series*. Narrator. Network/Call letters, City of Local Station, Broadcast Date. Medium.

"The McCaughey Septuplets." *Dateline*. Narr. Ann Curry. NBC, New York, 19 Nov. 1998. Television.

Interview (Personal, Email, Telephone)

Last name, First name. Type of Interview. Date.

Plugge, Lane. Personal interview. 15 Sept. 2007.

Video/DVD

Title of Film. Director's First name Last name. Distributor, Year. Format.

The Piano. Dir. Jane Campion. Miramax, 1992. DVD.

Print and Electronic In-Text Citations

Author's name not used in text- (last name and page numbers)

Ex. (Smith 23).

Author's name already used in text- (pages)

Ex. Tannen has argued this point (178-85).

Title with no author- ("Title of work" and pages)

Ex. ("Mandarin" 48)

Parkland High School Library Research Center

How to Search for Books Using DESTINY:

- Access the high school library website
(<http://www.parklandsd.org/web/phslibrary/>)
- Select Online Catalog
- Select Parkland High School
- Click on Catalog tab

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday- Friday:
7:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.



TO GET A BIBLIOGRAPHIC PRINTOUT:

- Click the **Add to This List** button on the right to add a title of a book you want.
- When finished adding titles, click on the **Resource Lists** tab on the left sidebar.
- Scroll to the bottom of the page and select Citation List (MLA format) or Bibliography from the pull down menu where it says **Create**.
- You may enter a title for your list in the box to the right.
- Click **Go!** When the new page appears, go to File (on the top left), then Print.

How to Access Online Library Databases:

- Access the high school library website
(<http://www.parklandsd.org/web/phslibrary/>)
- Select DATABASES
- Choose database

The Library Staff is always available to help you...

Librarians– Mrs. Will, Mrs. Dickerson (p.m. only)

Paraprofessionals– Mrs. Holub, Ms. Allen

Secretary– Mrs. Fahler

Reminder: Students must follow school policies listed in handbook
(cellphones, gaming, and acceptable computer use)